



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

October 30, 2006

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Michael P. Flanagan, Chairman 

SUBJECT: Approval of Criteria for International Baccalaureate Start-Up Grant

In June 2006, the State Board of Education adopted recommendations to expand the college credit opportunities for high school students. One of the recommendations was to make International Baccalaureate programs available to high schools. To assist with implementation of the recommendation, Public Act 342 Section 57 a (1) of the State School Aid Act includes \$250,000 designed to provide funding for schools that are in the process of starting an International Baccalaureate program at the high school level, the middle school level or both. The program will provide high school students with a rigorous academic program, better preparing them for the future.

International Baccalaureate is an established rigorous college level curriculum with high standards that are measured through international assessments. The courses and curricula are widely accepted for college credit, even by highly selective universities throughout the world. There are highly developed resources and support systems through the International Baccalaureate Organization.

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the criteria for the International Baccalaureate Start-Up Grant as described by the Superintendent's memorandum dated October 30, 2006.

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**MICHIGAN
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Criteria for International Baccalaureate Start-Up Grant

The State Board of Education has adopted as its Strategic Goal "Attain substantial and meaningful improvement in academic achievement for all students/children with primary emphasis on high priority schools and students." In addition, the State Board has adopted the following five Strategic Initiatives to implement the goal:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Ensuring Excellent Educators | • Ensuring Early Childhood Literacy |
| Elevating Educational Leadership | • Integrating Communities and Schools |
| Embracing the Information Age | |

To the extent possible, all grant criteria and grant awards will include priority consideration of the Strategic Goal and the Strategic Initiatives.

BACKGROUND/PURPOSE OF GRANT

☒ Competitive ☐ Formula ☒ New ☐ Continuation *(check all that apply)*

The purpose of the International Baccalaureate (IB) start up is to assist schools that are in the first four years of establishing an IB Diploma Program or International Baccalaureate Middle Years' Program.

IB is an established rigorous college level curriculum with high standards that are measured through international assessments. IB is widely accepted for college credit, even by highly selective universities. There are highly developed resources and support systems through the International Baccalaureate Organization.

LEGISLATION

Public Act 342 Section 57a (1) of the State School Aid Act authorizes the International Baccalaureate Start-Up grants.

RATIONALE FOR CRITERIA

To assure that the IB program meets requirements outlined by the IB Advisory Committee and serves an appropriate number of students.

CRITERIA

☒ Defined in Legislation ☐ Defined in Department's Grant ☐ Proposed by Staff

Grant funds shall be used only for start-up costs for the first four years of establishing an International Baccalaureate Diploma Program or International Baccalaureate Middle Years' Program.

- Applicants must consult with an advisory committee established by the department
- A program funded by a grant under this section shall serve either at least 75 pupils enrolled in each grade level in which the program is offered or at least 200 total pupils enrolled in the program.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS/TARGET POPULATION TO BE SERVED BY GRANT

Local Districts, Intermediate Districts or consortia consisting of local districts or intermediate districts or both are eligible to apply for this grant.

TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE

The total amount available is \$250,000.

Each of five awarded grants will be for the amount of \$50,000.

If the number of grant applicants exceeds the number that may be fully funded with the amount allocated under this section, the department shall award the grants based on the following:

- The number of pupils to be enrolled in the program. For a middle years' program, this means the number enrolled in the program in grades 6 to 8. For a diploma program, this means the number of pupils enrolled in grades 9 to 12.
- The department shall give priority to programs operated by a consortium and to diploma programs that require full diploma participation.
- The department shall attempt to balance the grants between diploma programs and middle years' programs.
- If more than one district, intermediate district, or consortium applies for a grant or grants under this section, the department shall not award more than one grant under this section to a particular district, intermediate district, or consortium.

A grant recipient may receive a grant under this section each fiscal year for not more than four fiscal years.

OFFICE ADMINISTERING GRANT/PROGRAM CONTACT

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